



EV 459414856

Express Mail No. 459414856
PATENT -08/975,940
Attorney's Docket No. SST/816

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of: Alfred D. Commins et al

Conf. No. 1225

Application No.: 08/975,940

Examiner: MAI, Lanna

Filed: November 21, 1997

Art Unit: 3637

For: BUILDING WALL FOR RESISTING LATERAL FORCES

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL No. 459414856

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including listed enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 20, 2005.

Signed:

Charles R. Cypher

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT SUBMITTED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION FILED PRIOR TO PAYMENT OF THE ISSUE FEE

Prosecution in the above-identified application is closed, as the Patent Office has issued a Notice of Allowance. This is a request for continued examination, accompanied by the appropriate fee and this submission, prior to payment of the Issue Fee. The submission constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement only. No changes to the claims are requested.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is required; however, this is a conditional petition and authorization to pay the necessary fees under 37 CFR §1.36(a) to provide for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications or other information, of which Applicant is aware that Applicant believes may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

EV 459414856

Express Mail No. 459414856
PATENT -08/975,940
Attorney's Docket No. SST/816

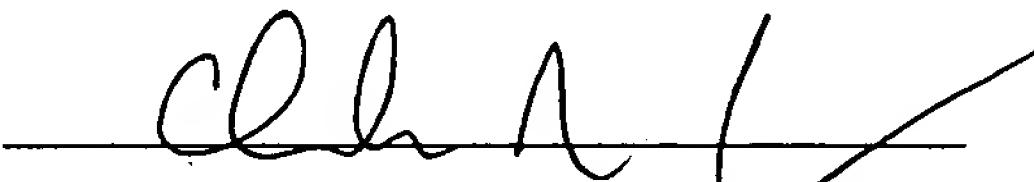
This information disclosure statement is accompanied by Form PTO/SB/08 (substitute for Form PTO-1449) and legible copies of all cited patent documents and non-patent literature listed in said form.

The person making this certification is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor(s) and in the practitioner's file.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and the requisite fee under 37 CFR §1.17(e).

While no further fee is believed to be due for this paper, if this belief is in error, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-4075 (Atty. Dkt. No. SST/0816).

Respectfully submitted,



Charles R. Cypher
Law Offices of James R. Cypher
405 14th Street
Suite 1607
Oakland, CA 94612

Date: October 20, 2005

Reg. No.: 41,694
Tel. No.: 510-832-4111
Fax No.: 510-832-4115
Customer No.: 498

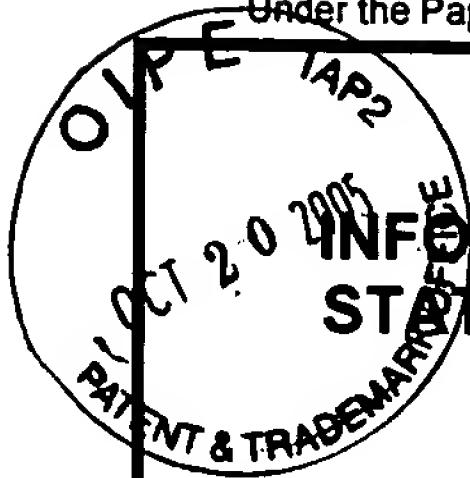
Attachments: Return Receipt Post Card
Form PTO/SB/30 (1 page)
Copy Form PTO/SB/30 (1 page)
Form PTO/SB/08 (2 pgs)
40 cited references

EV 459414856

MODIFIED PTO/SB/8A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO
(MODIFIED)**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	SST/0816
-------	---	----	---	------------------------	----------

Complete if Known

Application Number	08/975,940
Filing Date	11/21/1997
First Named Inventor	Alfred D. Commins
Group Art Unit	3627
Examiner Name	Mai, Lanna

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
A1	US- 2002/0002806A1	01-10-2002	Commins et al.		
A2	US- 2002/0020122 A1	02-21-2002	Mueller		
A3	US- 2003/0009964 A1	01-16-2003	Trarup et al.		
A4	US- 2004/0068947A1	04-15-2004	Commins et al.		
A5	US- 2,271,584	02-03-1942	Fellom		
A6	US- 4,037,281	07-26-1977	Reynolds		
A7	US- 4,577,826	03-25-1996	Bergstrom et al.		
A8	US- 4,863,189	09-05-1989	Lindsay		
A9	US- 4,875,314	10-24-1989	Boilen		
A10	US- 4,922,667	05-08-1990	Kobori et al.		
A11	US- 5,279,088	01-18-1994	Heydon		
A12	US- 5,727,663	03-17-1998	Taylor		
A13	US- 5,845,438	12-08-1998	Haskell		
A14	US- 5,848,512	12-15-1998	Conn		
A15	US- 5,862,639	01-26-1999	Abou-Rached		
A16	US- 5,921,054	07-13-1999	Rudd		
A17	US- 5,987,828	11-23-1999	Hardy		
A18	US- 6,185,898 B1	02-13-2001	Pratt		
A19	US- 6,192,637	02-27-2001	Boilen et al.		
A20	US- 6,212,849 B1	04-10-2001	Pellock		
A21	US- 6,308,469 B1	10-30-2001	Leung		
A22	US- 6,327,831 B1	12-11-2001	Leek		
A23	US- 6,668,508 B2	12-30-2003	Boone et al.		
A24					
A25					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ² Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
B1	WO 96/02713		02-01-1996	Paul, Arthur J.		
B2						
B3						
B4						
B5						

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

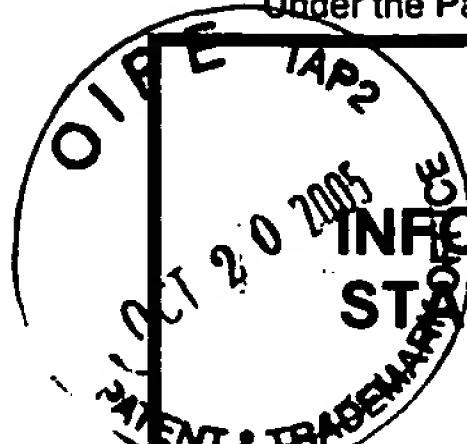
Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. SST-0816US_Form_IDS Ref List 1-05.doc

EV 459414856:1

MODIFIED PTO/SB/8A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO
(MODIFIED)**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	SST/0816
-------	---	----	---	------------------------	----------

Complete if Known

Application Number	08/975,940
Filing Date	11/21/1997
First Named Inventor	Alfred D. Commins
Group Art Unit	3627
Examiner Name	Mai, Lanna

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ^a
	C1	"BULLDOG Timber Connectors. Develop Full Strength of Timber Members at Connections", Product brochure. Publication date unknown, received in the offices of James R. Cypher October 24, 1997, BULLDOG A/S, Oslo, Norway	
	C2	"BULLDOG Steel Safety Timber Connectors." Product data. 1938. O. Theodorsen, C. E., Oslo, Norway	
	C3	"Hurri-Bolt Uplift Solutions. The Truss Tie-Down That Will Blow You Away. Engineering Manufacturing & Installation. SBCCI Report #9910," Product brochure. Publication date unknown; received in the offices of James R. Cypher July 28, 1999. Hurri-Bolt Uplift Solutions, Inc. Tampa, Florida	
	C4	Evaluation Report ER-5467. Rayco Earthquake Mitigation Anchor System. November 1, 1998. ICBO Evaluation Service, Inc., Whittier, California	
	C5	Evaluation Report PFC-5342. Hard Frame, Hardy Frame Heavy Duty, 18-Inch Hard Braced Frame and Hardy Frame Screw. September 1, 1999. ICBO Evaluation Service, Inc. Whittier, California	
	C6	MBR TDSystem "Typical Component Installation Details." Installation instructions and product data. June 9, 1993, MBR Systems, South San Francisco, California	
	C7	PROBOLT, "Structural Tie Down System." Product data sheet, installation instructions, and SBCCI Report No. 9916. 1999. PROBOLT, Orlando, Florida	
	C8	"Seismic Solutions Structural Tie Downs. Quake-Tie. The Superior Hold-Down Solution." Product brochure and data sheet. January 1998. "Memorandum re Calculation of Wood Shrinkage for Proposed Quake-Tie Hold-down System Consideration." January 20, 1997. SEISMIC SOLUTIONS, Glen Ellen, California	
	C9	"Simplified Structural Systems. Makers of The Hardy Frame." Product brochure. December 1, 1999. Simplified Structural Systems, Ventura, California	
	C10	"Simpson Strong-Tie Connectors. Strong-Wall Shearwall." Product data. 1999. Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., Pleasanton, California	
	C11	"Simpson Strong-Tie Connectors. Strong-Wall Shearwall." Installation guide. 2001. Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., Pleasanton, California	
	C12	"MKP Monkey Paw Anchor Bolt Holders." "LBP/BP Bearing Plates." "RFB Retrofit Bolts." Wood Construction Connectors. Catalog C-96. 1995. Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., Pleasanton, California. Page 19.	
	C13	DUNKLEY, D.. "Prefab Shear Walls." The Journal of Light Construction. Vol. 18, No. 3. December 1999. pp. 46-53.	
	C14	"Every Home Needs Z-Walls. The Strongest Shear Wall in the Smallest Space." Product brochure. Date unknown. KC Metal Products, Inc. San Jose, California	
	C15	"ZWALL Shear Walls. Strength Where You Need It." Product data on-line. Retrieved from the internet June 13, 2001 from URL: http://www.z-wall.com/photo15.htm , http://www.z-wall.com/photo7.htm , and http://www.z-wall.com/diag15.htm	
	C16	FOLIENTE, G.C., ed. <i>Earthquake Performance and Safety of Timber Structures</i> . Forest Products Society. Madison, Wisconsin. 1997. (See in particular: KARALIC, M. "Analysis of Performance of Floors and Shear Walls with the New Engineered Bracing Systems," pp. 115-124 and COMMINS, A. et al., "Effect of Hold-Downs and Stud-Frame Systems on the Cyclic Behavior of Wood Shear Walls," pp. 142-146)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. SST-0816US_Form_IDS Ref List 1-05.doc